

RECEIVED
FRANKS RIVER
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

FEB 21 1992

December 14, 1992
Hayfork, Ca, 96041

Supt. WJ/12/1
Chief Ranger
Staff Ranger
ENR, MA
Admin Clerk
Chief Ranger
Marilyn W-5
L.S. JRY
A. G. MARKS

Thank you for your prompt reply for my request of information regarding a (burial?) to ~~be~~ ~~in~~ ~~my~~ ~~possession~~.

I was surprised to learn that you know I was involved in the 1987 forest fire in the Hayfork area. We have had several fires since then but none that I recall as that fire. Incidentally Hayfork hasn't changed much since that time. My wife & I came here in 1976 when I retired to find a more relaxing rural area than Los Angeles. We are very content but miss the conveniences of a larger town.

I am enclosing the letter in question and your response of it in which errors most appropriate to you, I assume upon the letter in a Hepburn family file. The John A. Hepburn that was the soldier killed in battle, I believe was the uncle of the John A. Hepburn who was my step-father. As he and all of his siblings & descendants and I researched the file furnished the way into my possession as no one else was interested. There was no other letters in the file only some dates of births and deaths of members of the Hepburn family. This information is limited but if it would be of any interest to you please write me or telephone, 916-638-5377.

Sincerely
William A. DeLaney

P.S. Thank you for the enclosure of your memorandum to the Civil War

1-11-92

HOPKINS, JOHN I

AGE : 25

MUSTERED : FEB 20, 1862

DIED OF WOUNDS

RECEIVED IN BATTLE

DEC. 29, 1863

Major-General J. B. Magruder, Minnesota Vol.,
Near Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jan'y 27, 1863.

Dear Sir:

A note from you received this day reminded me of a duty which has heretofore been neglected. I necessarily rather than desire from the time you were wounded until the 14th or 15th of January, had no time or means of writing, being all the time day and night on duty without the leisure of writing material. I am commencing duties and all health has prevented my writing since the day of battle.

~~You have not yet recovered from the effects of the battle of the 19th of December.~~

1863, while my battery was engaging the enemy at Fort Johnson near Vicksburg, Mississippi, by a ball in fragment of shell which entered the mouth on the right side, passing through the tongue and thence into the left breast. I was laid to bed, from effects of injuries, that my wound was not dangerous. I appeared cheerful and very comfortable when I visited him after the struggle was over the day he was wounded, and appeared very grateful for my attention. The next morning I was very much surprised to learn that our wounded were in gallies the Army in discipline; but at first this was no alternative but to gallies the objects of orders. About 2 o'clock on the morning of the 30th of December

was informed with the intelligence that the
had reached his last. It was the first indication of
occurred that his wound was fatal. The news to General
at daybreak if the men not attacked at that hour, perhaps
it became necessary to converge on further information
in case to his former nothing was before daylight.
It was very dark and raining. The General sent
were conducted with due solemnity and respect in the dead,
The Colonel of the 9th Illinois Regiment of Infantry,
the was buried near General's last rest at the
Ark, three miles from Humphreys.

The objects left by you are as follows:

- Both five Dollars \$5.00
- Large Clamps 36
- Water bucket

\$6.15

- One Pocket Book
- One Cotton Record for \$20.00
- Small Paper Station
- One Miscellaneous Book
- Making Paper
- One Portfolio
- One Salt Stand
- Two Flat Pens and one holder

These articles are in the hands of Dr. J. Russell of
my battery and will be sent to you by express
as soon as a receipt for them from you shall
be received by me. There is an enclosure with
other regulations.

I am as ever dear Army very much. The

- One Quincern
- One Fair Cotton Paper
- Two Water Blunt
- One Fair Water Drawers
- One Fair Paper

endured himself to me by uniform good conduct though in an enemy country he

was among friends and had every attention

paid under the circumstances. He appeared

cheerful and resigned - talked cheerfully of home

after he was wounded - saying it was better to

lie than than some one that had a wife and

children at home to mourn his loss. Generous

thought and noble expressions. After he was

wounded he often spoke of his parents, whom

memory he seemed to embrace with grateful

affection.

My dear friend, you have lost a noble boy while

ably discharging his duty. It will be worth-remembering

recollection that I shall care not to forget my

the future. God has ordered your bereavement with

the faith that you are spared from life on the shore

and greatest die.

You have my unqualified sympathy. May God

transfer the guilt to the ^{sinners} whom he will choose to be so punished

as to pass safely through ^{the} gates and return to my home, I

hope he most richly to meet in due knowledge the parents

of him whose remains I have deposited in another earth in

France the honor to be his.

Most Respectfully yours truly

J. C. Appleton

J. C. Appleton
Paraguay, Philadelphia